(c) what other steps have been taken by Government for securing permanent membership of the UN Security Council and response of the world powers thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is growing momentum in support of India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council. Many developed and developing countries, including some permanent members of the UN Security Council, have indicated support for India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council in the UN and/or bilaterally. The issue of support for India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council is taken up with all countries, including permanent members of the Security Council in various meeting, visits etc.

Infiltration by Pakistan

3008. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agree that there is continuing Pakistan support to infiltration across the line of control (LoC);

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any new steps to curb infiltration;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) what impact infiltration would have on the peace prospects in the country; and

(e) to what extent the infiltration has been curbed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Government have taken appropriate security and other measures on the ground to deal with infiltration. Necessary steps have also been taken to apprise the international community of Pakistan's continuing support for and sponsorship of cross-border infiltration and

terrorism, and the threat inherent in Pakistan being the epicentre of international terrorism today.

(d) Pakistan's support for cross-border infiltration and terrorism is clearly directed against peace and stability. Government is firmly resolved and committed to resist violence and cross-border terrorism until it is decisively crushed.

(e) There have been phases of decline in infiltration levels compared to earlier years. There is also increasing recognition of Pakistan's involvement with international terrorism and many countries have called upon Pakistan to end cross-border infiltration, dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism and stop serving as a platform for international terrorism.

Misbehaviour with Indians abroad

†3009. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the incidents of misbehaviour with the Indians in various countries during the last two years, separately, including the recent incident in Malaysia; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to check such incidents in other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) There have been some cases of misbehaviour against and attacks on Indians in a few countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Netherlands, Russia and UK. These include misbehaviour against 195 Indian IT professionals in Malaysia on March 9, 2003, when they were detained by the police for questioning about their visa status.

(b) The Government takes up the matter immediately with the authorities in the country concerned and conveys the seriousness with which it views such incidents to prevent any recurrence of such cases.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.